

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL S. S. CONVENTION OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH

Held at Johnstown, Pa., Oct. 8, 9, 1895.

The Convention convened at 2 P. M., and was called to order by the retiring Moderator, elder J. H. Knepper.

Devotional Services, led by

E. E. Roberts.

Music by the Choir.

The address of welcome was then delivered by the Pastor, E. E. Haskins, and responded to by the delegates.

A Committee on Organization was then appointed by the chair, as follows: E. E. Roberts, Mrs. D. K. Bole, and D. Crawford.

Committees Report.

Moderator,	J. C. Mackey.
Vice Moderator,	J. W. Smouse.
Secretary,	M. C. Myers.
Treasurer,	D. K. Bole.

The Chair appointed the following Committee on Enrollment: E. H. Smith, W. L. Spanogle, J. M. Murray.

Resolved, That this be a Mass Convention, and the liberties be extended to all members of the Brethren church and Sunday-school.

The following Committees were appointed.

Queries: Mrs. D. K. Bole, W. A. Harmon.

Literature: W. L. Spanogle, S. L. Buck.

Young People's Work: E. E. Roberts, M. M. Sterling, E. E. Haskins.

Education: M. C. Myers, J. H. Knepper, D. Crawford.

Resolutions: R. Z. Replogle, M. M. Sterling, Henry Wise.

Tabulated Statement: R. Z. Replogle, Robert Meyers, Annie Yonkin.

A paper was read by Mrs. D. K. Bole on Faults and Failings of S. S. Superintendents as we sometimes see them, which was well taken, and ordered to be sent to the EVANGELIST for publication.

The Enrollment Committee reported seventy-two delegates.

Queries were then read and discussed.

Benediction by Henry Wise, and the Convention adjourned to meet at 7:30.

SECOND SESSION. TUESDAY EVENING, 7:30.

Music.

Devotional Services, led by

S. L. Buck, and D. M. Replogle.

The minutes of the previous session were then read and approved.

In the absence of brethren J. C. Cassel, and J. C. Kennedy, it was decided that the Chair appoint some one to open the discussion on the topic, The Propriety of Organizing a boys' Brigade in Connection with the Brethren Sunday-school. E. E. Roberts was appointed.

Ten minute talks on practical Sunday-school work by superintendents was opened by E. E. Roberts, and was further discussed by Brethren Trent, Bole, and others, and was very interesting and instructive.

E. E. Roberts then introduced the topic, the propriety of organizing boys' brigades in connection with the Brethren Sunday-school.

It was discussed pro. and con., and decided that this should be the just topic for the morning session.

A collection was then taken which amounted to \$6.05.

Music.

Benediction.

Convention adjourned.

THIRD SESSION. WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Devotional Services, led by

E. H. Smith.

The Minutes read and approved.

D. J. Bole being absent the Chair appointed R. Z. Replogle to introduce the topic. Five minute talks on practical Sunday-school teaching.

Discussion on the propriety of organizing boys' brigades, etc., was then continued, and many delegates to the Convention, especially the ministers took part, and for an hour or more a spirited, though friendly debate was in progress. While the views on the topic were somewhat varied, the sentiments of the great majority present strongly opposed the project. The ideas advanced by nearly all was that the formation of boys brigades was detrimental to the purpose for which the Sunday-school was intended.

The following resolution passed almost unanimously. "In as much as an organization known as the boys' brigade has become somewhat formidable, and by many churches encouraged, and whereas, a combination of military training with that of Christianity, as taught by the "Prince of Peace," seems entirely antagonistical to each other, it is hereby

Resolved, That the Brethren church regards it as an innovation, and to recognize it would be a departure from its time honored principles of peace and good will.

The opposition to the brigade was further expressed by the passage of the following resolution.

We recommend the society of the K. C., which has for its object the advancement of Christ's kingdom through the Brethren church.

During this session the report of the treasurer for the year just ended was accepted, and the Convention listened with interest to a number of five minute talks on practical teaching, by Sunday-school

workers. Opened by R. Z. Replogle, and denominational church literature, as a means of grace, by M. M. Sterling.

The committee on Tabulated Statement reported, and the report was accepted.

The committee on Young People's Work reported as follows:

Feeling the need of keeping our young people in the active work of the blessed Master, and having them assist in advancing the interests of the Brethren church by training them to take active part in the different departments of church work, we do most heartily recommend the King's Children Society of the Brethren church, and would suggest that every Brethren church in the state organize a King's Children Society.

The committees on Church Literature and Education reported, and the reports were accepted.

It was decided that the secretary prepare blanks to be used by delegates to the next Sunday-school Convention.

Music.

Benediction.

Adjournment.

M. C. MEYERS, Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The North Manchester church will hold their communion Thursday evening, Nov. 7. A cordial invitation is extended to all. W. C. PERRY.

The Brethren at Gretna, O., will hold their communion on Saturday evening, Nov. 2. A cordial invitation is extended to all of like faith.

HATTIE MILLER, Secretary.

Gretna, O., Oct. 24, '95.

FROM DOWNS, KANS.

We held our Autumn love feast at Portis, Kans., on the evening of Sept. 28. Sister Barns was baptized by D. O. Brumbaugh, our elder, in the afternoon previous to the feast. The following day Sister Millheiser's daughter Lilly was baptized by G. J. Wolters. God grant that these dear sisters may ever prove faithful. The Sunday-school at Portis is well attended. Brother Brumbaugh makes a good superintendent. This dear brother was chosen as minister to assist our elder, and brother Will Heron as deacon; they were ordained as recorded in Acts 8:17. God grant they may have strength from on high to perform the duties imposed upon them. Our Sunday-school at Elm Creek is closed at present, hope to reorganize in Spring. The crops here are somewhat better than last year, but wheat is almost a failure, and corn about half a crop. At present the weather here is very warm, and somewhat dry. Your sister in Christ. MRS. ELLEN TETLON.